

High School Tigers on winning the 2001 Arkansas 5A football championship. The Tigers recently defeated El Dorado 23 to 16 to claim this honor after compiling a 12 to 1 record on the season and defeating two conference champions, including top-ranked Cabot High School en route to the State title.

Under the mentoring of head coach Gary Wear, the Tigers set a variety of school records and had a number of players named all-state and all-conference.

The 'Tigers' performance surprised many, including some folks in Bentonville itself, but it certainly did not surprise Coach Wear. He had his players in a winning mind-set from the start of the year and then worked hard to ensure that they maintained a positive attitude and work ethic that prepared them for the championship game last Saturday.

Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to see how this team's winning effort has brought the community of Bentonville together. I am very proud of these student athletes, their coaches, parents and supporters who worked so hard to achieve this goal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. FILNER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

HONOR MATTERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. SHOWS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SHOWS. Mr. Speaker, on a recent Sunday afternoon I was driving to my mom and dad's home in Moselle. I have driven this road from Bassfield a thousand times. I passed our community's beautiful old cemetery, one I have driven by a thousand time.

On this Sunday, as always, I could see the grave of one of our Congressional Medal of Honor recipients, Roy Wheat, who fought in Vietnam. He was a hero and received the Congressional Medal of Honor. This is one of our highest honors and has been awarded only 3,455 times since the Civil War.

An old torn, faded, and battered American flag was flying at Roy's grave. I thought about his bravery. I thought about my father and his service in World War II. He was a Prisoner of War, and captured at the Battle of the Bulge. I thought about our veterans and military retirees and the men and women who are right now heroically standing down terrorism and defending our way of life.

Our flag has a way of making us think about it. Honor matters. Giving honor means providing great respect because of great worth and noble deeds done. I did not like seeing a faded, torn, and battered flag flying on Roy's grave. Honor matters.

Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bipartisan resolution to make sure we are properly honoring our war heroes. This resolution will make sure that our country's greatest military heroes, recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor, are appropriately honored with the display of the American flag at their grave sites.

Currently flags are available for placement at grave sites of veterans cemeteries that are maintained by the Federal Government. But families of Congressional Medal of Honor winners who are privately buried do not have the assurance of always seeing the American flag at their grave sites.

This resolution simply states that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs should make American flags available to immediate family members of deceased Medal of Honor recipients, and to veterans' organizations and others responsible for maintaining these private grave sites.

Why? Because honor matters. It matters for those who have protected us as a memorial, and for those who do and will protect us as a reminder that their service is not in vain.

Our military is America's first line of defense from aggression and those who oppose freedom. Just like keeping our promise of health care, making sure the Montgomery GI bill is strong, and providing support for our current soldiers and those who have already served, this does matter.

If we do not honor our veterans and military retirees in both words and deeds, we dishonor their service. I will not ignore America's veterans and retirees. They have already given of themselves to us, and for that we owe them an incredible debt.

SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF ATTACK ON PEARL HARBOR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Guam (Mr. UNDERWOOD) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow, December 7, the people of the United States will take the time to remember the attack on Pearl Harbor, which occurred nearly 60 years ago. In ceremonies at Pearl Harbor and particularly at the USS Arizona Memorial, we will take the time to remember the attack on our country, and we will pay tribute to those who died during that fateful Sunday morning. Our tribute and our effort will be made more significant as we simultaneously reflect on the heinous attack on our people made nearly 3 months ago in New York City and at the Pentagon across the river from Washington, D.C.

On the same day that Pearl Harbor was attacked, an American territory was also attacked at Wake Island and the then Commonwealth of the Philippines and my home island of Guam. Guam endured some 32 months of a brutal enemy occupation in which my people were tested and proved their

loyalty and steadfastness to the principles that make America great.

But that day was December 8, 1941, on the other side of the international dateline, and it is that day that brings back the thoughts of struggle and bravery and patriotism and sacrifice which marks the World War II experience of the people of Guam.

But there is another story which needs to be told and which links the attacks on Guam and Pearl Harbor in a unique way. The people of Guam were present at Pearl Harbor. The people of Guam fought at Pearl Harbor, and the people at Guam died at Pearl Harbor. We know of at least 12 American sailors who were from Guam and who perished during that fateful morning. Six were aboard the USS *Arizona* and their names are on the solemn Arizona Memorial alongside their shipmates. Their sacrifice and devotion to duty have never specifically been recognized, and I will do so this weekend in Honolulu with a solemn wreath-laying at the Arizona Memorial.

The 12 Chamorro men who perished have a unique story to tell. All were mess attendants. All were part of a military institution at the time which allowed Chamorro men from Guam to join the U.S. Navy only as officers' mess attendants, cooks and stewards. However, they were not bitter, and they performed their duties and responsibilities in an exemplary way. They were grateful for the opportunity to join because only a limited number of men were accepted from Guam annually into the Navy during the decade prior to World War II. This provided an opportunity for them to become U.S. citizens and the chance to prove themselves, their devotion to duty and sacrifices made more special because of the circumstances of their service. They were not yet American citizens, they were denied the opportunity to serve in a different capacity, and they were sometimes not given the respect which they deserved. Yet they proudly served; and they passed along their patriotism, love of service, and pride of island to succeeding generations.

It is no longer remarkable to see Chamorro men from Guam serve in the military in a wide variety of capacities. It is not even remarkable to see so many Chamorros today serving as officers who themselves are the children and the grandchildren of these mess attendants. In fact, the master of ceremonies for this weekend's ceremony is Commander Peter Gumataotao, the son of Afustin Gumataotao, one of the mess attendants who survived the attack on Pearl Harbor. The people of Guam stand taller today because they stood on the shoulders of these men, and I certainly would like to pay them a tribute by reading the names of our elders: Gregorio San Nicolas Aguon, Nicolas San Nicolas Fegurgur, Francisco Reyes Mafnas, Vicente Gogue Meno, Jose Sanchez Quinata, Francisco Unpingco Rivera, Ignacio Camacho Farfan, Jose